



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **Conservation Commission Minutes 06/18/2009**

Arlington Conservation Commission  
 Minutes  
 June 18, 2009

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, Charles Tirone, Ellen Reed, William O'Rourke, and Catherine Garnett of the Commission. Brian Thomas, Associate member, was in attendance. Ezra Benjamin of the Commission was not in attendance. Also present were Tim Dexter, Mike Turgeon, Chris Costello, Nick Corsa, William Toth, Patty Allcandro, Bill Warren, Mara Evans, Rich Kirby, Libby Peura, Al Gala, and David Levy of the Arlington Housing Corporation.

7:45 pm – Commission Business

Reed/Tirone motioned to approve the 6/4 **minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. White reported that the Waterfield Design Group of Winchester has been selected as the consultant for the **Cookes Hollow** project.

O'Rourke/Reed motioned to approve the concept plan for the **restoration of Arlington's Great Meadows**; motion passed unanimously.

White/Tirone motioned to approve the payment of the **MACC dues** of \$483; motion passed unanimously.

8pm – **Request for Determination of Applicability** - fiber optic cable under Rt 2

The Highway Department is running fiber optic cable from its District office in Arlington to the headquarters in Boston. There are two proposed alignments through the Route 2, bikepath area. One would pass under Rt. 2 to connect with the T tunnel access. The other would run along the Interim Access Rd, aka Cambridge Park West.

O'Rourke/Reed motioned that even though the work is within the resource areas, that the work would not result in any impacts to them and therefore no Notice of Intent is required; motion passed unanimously.

8:15pm - **Notice of Intent** - 18 Reed St

Mr. Kirby presented the plans to build a new house on a new side lot. The proposal includes new stormwater infiltration systems. The work would be within the 25 foot setback of an adjacent stream. The proposal includes a Buffer Zone enhancement planting plan to mitigate for building within the setback.

The area where the house is proposed is currently lawn with some shade trees. The mitigation planting area is on the adjacent lot and is proposed at a ratio of 3.5 to 1.

The erosion control will be installed to the rear of the enhancement area until it is stabilized. The enhancement area is currently lawn.

There are currently no landscaping plans for the rest of the lot, but will not include invasive species.

The existing paved driveway for 28 Reed St will be moved closer to the house, is approximately 400 sf. and a second driveway will be built to serve the second house, approximately 400 to 500 sf.

The new house will be approximately the same size as 18 Reed St, approximately 960 sf. There should not be any more shading than the house and adjacent wooded land provides.

No fence will be needed on the retaining wall as it's less than 3 feet tall. This wall is necessary to contain fill for infiltration systems and for the house foundation. Ms. Reed commented that turtles will not be able to climb this wall.

Mr. Kirby agreed that the new driveway for the new house could be constructed with porous pavers.

Mr. Corso asked who is responsible for the street if damaged by construction. Mr. Kirby answered that the construction company would be responsible for repair of the street.

Mr. Kirby added that the property owners removed approximately 8 truck loads of debris from behind the existing house.

Mr. Tirone asked why is there no Riverfront Area for this stream.

Reed/White motioned to continue the hearing to 7/9 at 8:30pm, with the applicant's consent, to conduct a site walk on 6/26 at 8am; motion passed unanimously.

8:45pm – **Working Session** – 34 Gould Rd

Mr. Warren and the homeowner presented a draft plan for renovations to the first floor and an addition to the house on the shore of Spy Pond. The erosion controls would be placed at 50 feet from the shoreline.

Mr. Warren asked for a diagram detail of the erosion controls we would accept. The board discussed filter socks and snow fence as a limit of work line.

The relandscaping would occur in the future by the homeowner. She would provide a list of the desired plantings.

9pm – **Request for Determination of Applicability** – 34 Forest St, repaving parking lot

Mr. Levy presented the project changes including the removal of one tree, installation of a gas line and repaving the parking lot.

The repaving will involve complete removal and reinstallation of the asphalt. The tree that needs to be removed is a large birch located on the wall which is the bank of Mill Brook. It is leaning towards the building. The existing boiler of the building will be replaced with a high efficiency gas boiler but will need new gas service installed.

Erosion control should be installed along the entire wall at the brook.

The new fence will be installed 1 foot closer to building and include a bottom bar. The space between the wall and the fence will be a planting bed. A planting bed will be installed in the back corner. Two extra bars will be installed in the area of the dumpster, or bollards if feasible.

Tirone/O'Rourke motioned that even though the work was within resource areas, it would not impact the functions and habitat values within those areas and therefore no Notice of Intent needs to be filed for this work; motion passed unanimously.

Commission Business (cont.)

Mr. White produced a map of the **Mt. Gilboa Conservation Land** to show the location of recent tree cutting and debris disposal adjacent to our property. The work appears to be taking place on the paper street or the adjacent house lot.

The Commission signed the **Certificate of Compliance** for the shoreline stabilization project at Mill Brook Condos (DEP File No. 91-197).

Ms. Garnett asked if the **water line installation work** along Washington St could be contained by erosion controls in the vicinity of a wetland located at Mohawk and Washington Sts.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30pm.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Corinna Beckwith  
Administrator